



Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea

Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet

Marianna McDonald Demonstrates Pastel Painting at Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea

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BEREA, Ky. – On Saturday, Aug. 11, Marianna McDonald, of Lexington, will demonstrate pastel painting, from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea.

Born in Louisville, McDonald started painting in oils as a teenager. Her summers were often spent on a five-generation family farm in Randolph County, W. Va., where she fell in love with the land while walking its hillsides and valleys.

"As long as I can remember, I've loved the land, especially open areas where there is little interference of human activity," McDonald said. "These places represent unrestricted freedom and solitude. In my paintings I wish to connect to that sense of place. By emphasizing light, shadow and expressive color with pastels, I hope to give the viewer the experience of seeing and being in these landscapes."

McDonald began using pastels rather than oils in order to capture a soft – yet rich – depth of color. She has painted the rural areas of the eastern United States for more than 40 years. Not only does she paint what she sees, McDonald also manages to convey the feeling that connects her to a place and to the beauty of the land. Her paintings have a quietness and serenity that have a lasting impact.

Works by McDonald are regularly available at the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea, 200 Artisan Way, just off Interstate 75 at Berea exit 77. The center's exhibits, shopping and travel information areas are open daily from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and the cafe is open from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Admission is free.

The center currently features works by more than 650 artisans from 100 counties across the Commonwealth. Special exhibits on display include "About Face: Kentucky Artisan Works Inspired by the Human Face," through Aug. 26. For information about the center's programming, call 859-985-5448 or visit the center's website at www.kentuckyartisancenter.ky.gov

The Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea is an agency in the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.







Photos, left to right: Marianna McDonald creates a pastel painting; finished landscape; pastels and photo used to create a pastel painting of a creek